

7 December 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: OGC, COMPT, IC

SUBJECT: H. R. 7130, Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1973

You may be aware that subject bill was passed by the House on 5 December 1973, however, I wanted to be sure that this fact was specifically called to your attention so that you could determine whether any of its provisions would have adverse implications for the Agency, the intelligence community and our projects and programs.

It is my understanding that we have provided your offices with material during the legislative processing of this bill and that it has been the topic of discussion between our respective offices. We have also discussed the implication of this legislation generally with the staff of our appropriations and legislative oversight committees, but I would prefer that we not rely exclusively upon their judgment in this important area.

In view of the grand sweep of H. R. 7130, it may well be that it is too early to determine whether it will result in significant problems for us, but even the potential implications, I believe, are significant enough to deserve a thorough review at this time, such as the increased focus on functional categories as part of the proposed budgetary process [Title I, section 121], and congressional controls over and reporting to Congress on "impoundments," a broadly defined term as set forth in section 203 of Title II.

Attached are excerpts from the Congressional Record covering Title I and Title II of H. R. 7130. Also included is an excerpt from the Daily Digest from the Congressional Record from 5 December 1973, identifying the amendments to the bill which were agreed to and rejected on that date.

We would appreciate having your views on this matter as soon as possible.

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John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

Attachments

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<p>I have reviewed this with some care. Obviously it is difficult to anticipate the types of problems that may well result. I see no provision which specifically would infringe on Agency interest. However, there can well be political and practical consequences such as, for example, the desire by this new committee to get totals of budgets of intelligence components and possibly even more detailed breakdowns. I have 25 suggestions as to how we could take any action on the bill which would forestall this.</p>					
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